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London, UK



A-CHOICES

The African Lifestyle Magazine

"Earning my own money, learning everything about food and preparing delicious meals and a deep desire to get an education and be self-sustained were great inspirations for me" -Jackie

INTERVIEW

WITH

CHEF JACKIE CAMERON

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CONTENTS

- 01 Cover page
- 03 About us
- 04 Meet the TEAM
- 05 Editor's Letter
- 06 Interview with Chef Jackie Cameron
- 16 Cindy Amada, My sweet friend
- 22 Happy Birthday Cali
- 24 Happy Birthday Isabella
- 26 Modou Adams jailed after trying to smuggle 2.9kg of cocaine out of Peru
- 28 'Men tell me they don't want to date me just because I'm black... it's embarrassing'
- 31 Jay-Z says daughter Blue Ivy has very mixed feelings about him and mom Beyonce in very rare interview
- 34 CoveMatthew Perry, 'Friends' star, dead at 54r page
- 37 Remembering Richard Roundtree: 1942-2023
- 40 Mimi Oyewo
- 42 Congratulation!!! Oyinda Fagbenro
- 45 FG Writes UK, Requests Diezani's Extradition over \$2.5bn Fraud
- 48 Black history month 2023: When is it celebrated in the UK?
- 53 'I was given five days to leave the country': Student at centre of deportation campaign graduates from university
- 57 King Charles Kenya trip: Mau Mau uprising hangs over visit
- 61 Are women in Nigeria safe?
- 62 Francis Ngannou on meeting Cristiano Ronaldo
- 68 Davido Recounts How His Father Used His Power to Cancel All His Shows
- 70 Detaining Naira Marley Without Evidence, A Violation Of His Rights — Shubomi, Singer's Sister.
- 72 Justice for some, injustice for all
- 77 Fury survives knockdown in controversial points win over Ngannou
- 81 President Tinubu Bans His Son, Seyi, Other Unauthorized Persons From Attending FEC Meetings

ABOUT US

A-CHOICES - The African Lifestyle Magazine

A CHOICES magazine is an online African lifestyle magazine for ordinary-ed-ucated reader in English. It is not entirely about entertainment but covers other broad topics including business and economy(market) arts & culture fashions, personality stories, sports, etc. It is a channel through which we celebrate African achievers at home and in the diaspora. A-CHOICES hopes to entertain, empower and inspire Africans around the world.

Write for US

We're accepting submissions from writers, thinkers, makers, scholars, and readers of online publishing and editorial work. We are currently accepting submissions for our next Issues . We accept submissions on a rolling basis, and generally don't close submissions until halfway through a given issue, so there are no set closing dates. We do not accept work that has been previously published or blogged.

Please send submissions to:

✉ achoice@a-choicesmagazine.com

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MEET THE TEAM



Gbenga T.J. Okunlola
Editor-in-Chief
teejayok@gmail.com
London, UK



Abiola Okunlola-Anjorin
Assistant Editor
abiolaanjorin82@yahoo.com
Lagos, Nigeria



Dr. Justina Mutale
Fashion /Beauty
Editor
justinamutale@hotmail.co.uk
London, UK



Seyi Awoloye
Managing Editor
seyiawoloye@yahoo.com
Los Angeles, CA



Emmanuel Anya
Contributing Editor
clintonjayboy@yahoo.com
Lagos, Nigeria



Akosua Darko
Senior Writer
creativeisme7@gmail.com
London, UK



Toyin Olamigoke
Fashion Editor
temitolagoke145@gmail.com
Lagos, Nigeria



Alben A. Jones
EU-Bureau Chief
albenajones@yahoo.co.uk
Sofia, Bulgaria



Abiodun E. Adeleye
Senior Photo
Journalist
speaktobey@yahoo.com
London, UK



Dr. Funmi Beckley
Special Project
Co-ordinator
fumbeck@gmail.com
Abeokuta, Nigeria



Milena Nikolova
Contributing Editor
/Media Consultant
genova.milena@gmail.com
Sofia, Bulgaria



Ibukun Babatunde
Senior advert
manager/Project Co-
ordinator
babatundeibukun15@gmail.com
Lagos, Nigeria



Bunmi Johnson
New York Bureau
Chief
olu20@hotmail.com
USA



James Osondu
Sofia Bureau
Chief
osonduj@hotmail.com
Bulgaria



Joy Gofwen
gofwenjoy@gmail.com
Lagos Bureau
Chief, Nigeria



Azubuike Michael C.
Graphics Designer
louismike2006@gmail.com
Lagos, Nigeria



Babatunde Mayowa
Graphic Designer
babsmayor01@gmail.com
Lagos, Nigeria

EDITOR'S LETTER

Hello,

and welcome to our November edition. This month, A-CHOICES interviews Chef Jackie Cameron, founder of Jackie Cameron's School of Food and Wine, in South Africa. Chef Jackie Cameron incorporates a sense of identity and place into her cooking better than any other chef in South Africa. Cameron's plates engage the variety of South African classic tastes from across the cultural spectrum and are reconfigured and brought to life in a modern manner that allows them to take their place at international and world-class restaurants. From the first bite of bread to the last bonbon, her skill is subtle, sophisticated, and delicious. Her students are privileged to be part of a process that is increasingly seeing South African tastes take their place at the table of great world food genres. Don't forget you can always advertise with us as we promise to deliver. You can catch up with us at www.a-choicesmagazine.com for exclusive interviews with

celebrities, exciting articles and lots more. This is a magazine where we celebrate people, lifestyle and African achievers. Thank you

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TAI MEDIA LIMITED
71-75 Shelton Street,
Covent Garden, London,
WC2H 9JQ UK
Telephone: +44-7448403681
Email: achoice@a-choicesmagazine.com
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Gbenga TJ Okulola,
Publisher/Editor in Chief,
A-CHOICE



 a-choicesmagazine.com

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INTERVIEW WITH CHEF JACKIE CAMERON

Lifestyle



By : Gbenga Teejay Okunlola

London, UK



A-CHOICES: Career path after studies. Do you think it is important to get a formal education in cooking to become a professional chef?

JACKIE: I one hundred per cent agree with this, if-money-allows, the amount that one gets fed (for lack of words) in a school environment is huge. My students often say they learn more at my school in a few months vs five-years at high school. It is a jump-start in one's career.

A-CHOICES: Jackie, first of all, I'd like to thank you for agreeing to participate in this interview. Tell us a little bit about yourself and your educational background.

JACKIE: Such a pleasure, thank you so much for including me. I went to school in Pietermaritzburg, high school at St John's D.S.G -it was a natural progression to go to Chef School after Matric. Everything happened, all special family memories, around the kitchen/dining room table. My grandfather had his own butchery in PMB, and my grandmothers were fantastic cooks, as is my mother—a very foodie family.



A-CHOICES: What is your food philosophy?

A-CHOICES: What inspired you to become a chef?

JACKIE: Keep it simple, highlight the main flavours, don't over complicate food, cook from childhood memories, cook locally, heritage-food ...cook what is known.And if it isn't known research absolutely everything about what you are serving, always make it your aim to know more than your guests.

JACKIE: Delicious food, learning everything about food-the deep desire to get educated and get working, earning my own money. Owning my own money and being self-sustainable was extremely high up on my list.



A-CHOICES: Tell us about your personal stories, and motivations.

JACKIE: I'm motivated by not ever letting my parents down, by impressing them. They have given me absolutely everything, it is the least I can do.

Now with having a school, I am motivated by each of my students, from-day-one, every year I have more students and each one of them, their success and their happiness is important for me. Their journey with food, excites me. I truly get extremely invested in each of them.

A-CHOICES: What is your number one kitchen rule?

JACKIE: Cook with love



A-CHOICES: Can you briefly tell us what the concept of Jackie Cameron School Of Food & Wine School is about?

JACKIE: A hands-on school in all regards, I am the principal, lecturer, assessor, function chef... I get to spend most of every day with my students. It is a love-hate relationship ;) I offer an 18-month course and a three-year course, which is both locally and internationally accredited, and I take a maximum of 15 students every January. On completion of my course I guarantee 100 % job placement. We were the first school in the country to be internationally accredited for both food and wine.

A-CHOICES: How and when did the Jackie Cameron School Of Food & Wine School start?

JACKIE: I left my last job position on 1 August 2014, I was meant to open my school in January 2015, but I ended up opening in April 2015, as we were waiting on equipment which was getting imported.

A-CHOICES: What advice would you give to aspiring chefs when they first start working in the industry?

JACKIE: Well, first of all, they must come to my school ;) Because they will be mentally prepared for what is to come. Focus on honing your skills, focus on learning, and never focus on the money (obviously you need to survive) but focus on learning, for at least the first 10 years...everything must be about learning, growing and improving one's skills.



A-CHOICES: What do you love most about the wonderful world of wine?

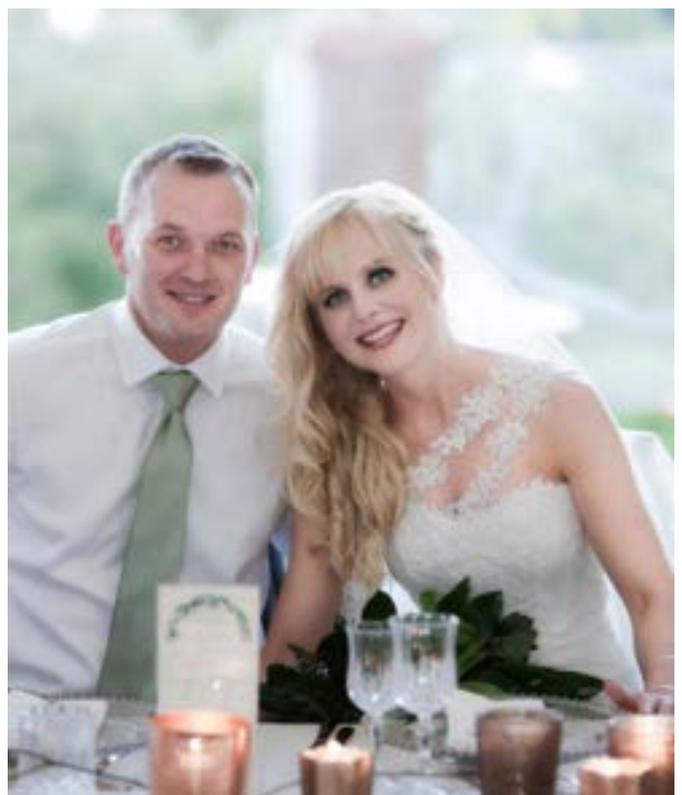
JACKIE: That is truly wonderful. And especially in South Africa, we are truly blessed with all the fantastic choices. I support winemakers and cellars that I know, that I have shared a glass of wine/bottle with the owner/ the team...that I can share a story with/about ...to my students...to my guests. There is really so much choice, it is the only way I can choose in South Africa.

A-CHOICES:How Often Do You Find Yourself Recommending South African Sparkling Wine?

JACKIE: So our MCC, recently changed to CC, is my favourite all time drink. I am proudly South African and especially when it comes to our bubbles. We can be very proud of what is available.

A-CHOICES: Do you have any personal South African wine favourite tipples?

JACKIE: I could never answer this, when I open a bottle of wine-I more than anything have a flash or flood of memories coming into my mind...this industry is just the best. The people I have met, it truly is remarkable.On this same note, when I taste a new wine, and if I love it -I find I start becoming quite desperate to know more-not about the tannin or acidity level, but about the winemaker...his/or her wine-making style, background...family.



A-CHOICES: Tell me more about your book Jackie Cameron's "Cooks at Home" Promo.

JACKIE: "Jackie Cameron cooks at home" was my first book and my second: "Baking with Jackie Cameron". I really wanted a cookbook that people could rely on for all times of day. A book they could trust. I had started writing a monthly column for a local newspaper whereby I included recipes monthly, I found this was phenomenal for me...I very quickly learnt how to perfect writing a recipe so a home-cook could achieve this in their own kitchen. The reason for creating a cookbook is to inspire the home-cook to cook more at home. And I do believe if people are cooking better at home they expect a better quality in restaurants and so the entire standard is lifted. In my school, on cooking or function days ... there isn't a day we do not use my cookbooks.

A-CHOICES: Tell us a bit about your typical day and what it looks like

JACKIE: Every day is completely different, I truly do wear so many different hats. I can go from full days of lectures to a day with lectures-then a lunch function, back to a meeting, then a student interview for enrolment, to a marketing meeting, to dealing with a student issue. I can plan my day- and be adamant I am doing this or that, but it really never works out to be honest. When my baby girl, Jasmine is sleeping in the evening, and if I don't have an evening function, this is when I normally do all the things I was meant to do during the day. I normally make deals with myself ;) saying I can not go to sleep before this-or-that is completed. So most days I start work at 7:30 (after getting Jasmine ready for school-her and I make her lunch boxes together) and I go to about 11pm. I don't feel I have ever worked a day of my life, this is my lifestyle it is most definitely not a job.



A-CHOICES: What are five words you'd use to describe yourself and your work ethic?

JACKIE: Pedantic, competitive, obsessive but also fair, I do things with integrity; for instance, my business decisions must feel right and sit well with me. If they don't I will not sleep at night. I am also the first to say I am sorry if I am in the wrong, but if I am not I will fight to the end of my days. I don't believe in: the guest is always right.
(I have no grey areas...I am very old-school black and white...I say: hard on rules but fair on people)

A-CHOICES: Why are you passionate about being a che

JACKIE: I always knew in life I wanted to make a difference. When I was very very young, I mentioned being a police officer so I could help people. Then it became about making people beautiful food to make a difference. For me, what got me out of bed every day...started not becoming about beautiful food, it was about training my staff and developing them and growing them. Seeing their development-this was exciting me-hence me opening my school. I have said to my students, the day I pass...

A-CHOICES: What qualities do you believe make a good chef?

JACKIE: self-disciplined
Respectfulness
Conscientious
Organised
Responsible
Communicative
Trust-worthy
And many more

A-CHOICES: Is it important for young South African chefs to get international work experience?

JACKIE: Yes, I strongly suggest this. Everyone thinks it is greener on the other side. Chefs need to travel and work overseas...eat overseas...then come back and realise the world-class standard that we have in South Africa. I have travelled extensively and I am always blown away by our standard in our top eateries, obviously the price point is also a lot more favourable.

...I expect them all to be at my funeral ;) that is how much they have influenced my life and I hope I have theirs. I also continue to say if they aren't I will haunt them...hahaha!

What is your proudest moment as a chef and school owner?

JACKIE: I have so many fabulous stories that involve past students who could write for days.

I will attach a few Instagram links for this to the main part of the email.

My proudest moment as a chef was opening my school-having my own business. School owner was when I was awarded TOP EDUCATOR in South Africa: FOOD XX Symposium and Awards in February 2019: Womxn in Food, Jackie impressed the judges of the category entitled: teachers and mentors dedicated to sharing knowledge and encouraging future innovators - and came away with another award to enhance her already substantial collection.

A-CHOICES: If You Sat Down For A Quiet Dinner, What Dish And Sparkling Wine Would You Choose To Enjoy Together?

JACKIE: So my present favourite home-cooked dish is spaghetti bolognese... and the richness of this goes beautifully with a crisp and refreshing CC contrast of richness. Colmant brut reserve is always a treat, also Kleine Zalze brut is high up on my list.

A-CHOICES: Do you have any exciting plans for the future that you can reveal to our readers?

JACKIE: Nothing that I can think of, besides the deep desire to want to teach and train as many people as possible. I have many students from all over Africa coming to my school, the great thing is that we offer accommodation on the property, I have also had a student from England coming on course. This is a life-changing experience to come on a course like this and be exposed to the life-style of South Africa. I know my English – student says he will forever stay in South Africa he is loving it, many years after qualifying. The pound to the rand to the euro...for me it is a no-brainer for international students.

Cindy Amadi

My sweet friend

Tribute

By : Akosua Darko

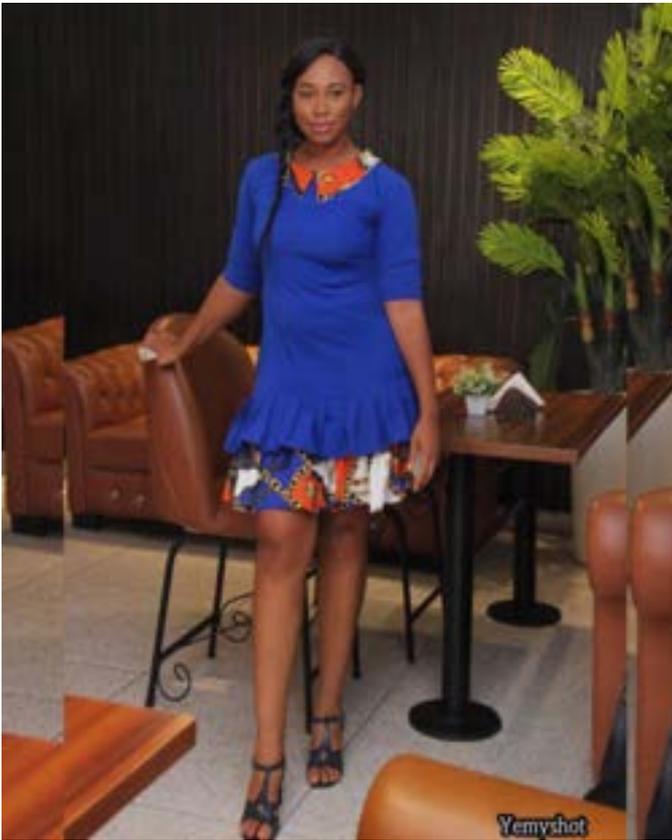
Senior Writer

London, UK

I say goodbye to you wishing things could have been different. So tall, so beautiful, so elegant, so sweet. Cindy was a breath of fresh air. She left you feeling lighter and happier in the world. Imagine my shock when I heard my university friend no longer existed. All that life and its fullness was gone. Cindy is now just a memory. We met at Swansea University, both of us were active in the student union. She studied law and then went back to Nigeria where she was building a reputation as a screen goddess, we lost touch when she moved back.



She made her mark in history in Nigeria's first LGBT film 'Ife' about two lesbians finding love and the complexities of that in Nigeria. She played Adoara the lover of Ife (played by Uzomaka Aniunoh). Cindy naturally was bold, yet easy going. She had an air of total confidence of who she was. She exuded total self control and believe. However, she was extremely humble. You were always at ease around her.



Cindy's death was announced on social media 14 September 2023, the cause of death unknown. My condolences to all her family and friends. That is the end of my friend's story, however she will live on in the arts of those who love her, who can remember the tower of a person and the beauty



inside and out she was. The ballad of the dove, girl go with peace and so much love. In my head everyday "I send you away with a love song."

The movie's official page stated , "We are greatly, deeply, and unbelievably saddened to learn about the passing of Cindy Amadi, who played Adaora in #Iféthemovie." Pamela Adie a producer of the movie. celebrated Cindy on her Instagram story, lamenting the fact she wouldn't be alive to star in the sequel.This wasn't the idea, Cindy," "You were thrilled when I assured you we would create the sequel. I'm sorry we couldn't complete it in time. But we will complete it...for you. Rest in Peace for now," she wrote.



As the Rent song goes I will remember you in seasons of love.

"Five hundred, twenty five thousand, six hundred minutes
Five hundred, twenty five thousand moments so dear
Five hundred, twenty five thousand, six hundred minutes
How do you measure, measure a year?
In daylights, in sunsets
In midnights, in cups of coffee
In inches, in miles
In laughter, in strife

In five hundred, twenty five thousand, six hundred minutes
How do you measure a year in a life?



Cindy Amadi

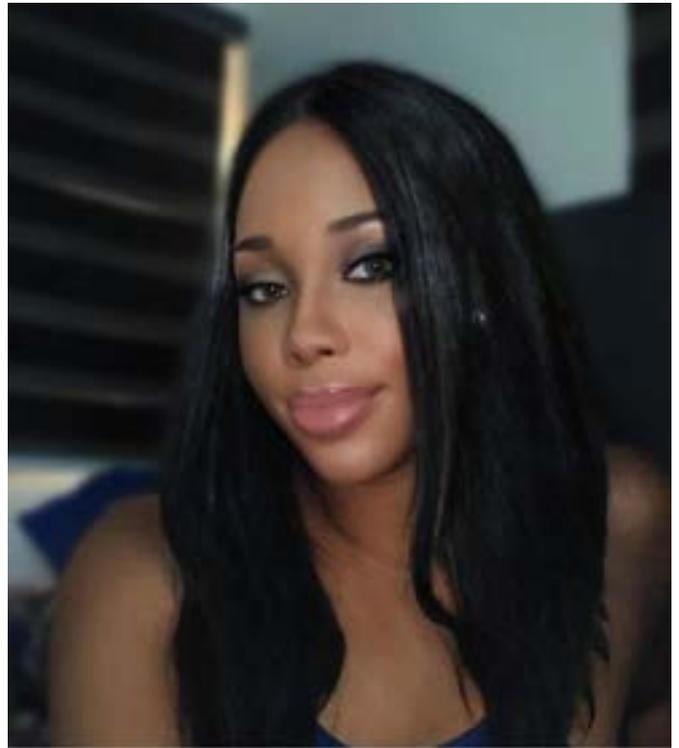
How about love?How
about love?How about
love?Measuring love
Seasons of loveSeasons
of love

Five hundred, twenty five
thousand, six hundred
minutesFive
hundred, twenty five
thousand journeys to plan
Five hundred, twenty five
thousand, six hundred
minutes How can you
measure the life of a
woman or a man?

In truths that she learned
Or in times that he
criedIn bridges he burned
Or the way that she died

It's time now to sing
outAlthough it's not the
endTo celebrate,
remember a year in the
life of a friend

Remember the love
Remember the love
Remember the love
Measuring the seasons of
love Seasons of love."





Cindy Amadi the sweet Giant, with a lion heart. Thank you for being my friend. The Earth will miss your sweet soul. I wish you didn't have to be buried so young. The pain of knowing someone so beautiful didn't get to see all the beauty life had to offer till old age is heartbreaking. Yet those who love you will always remember you as 'Ife' (love personified) in seasons of love and the sweetheart you were.

You've left me speechless and wordless my friend. I wish I could make your eulogy more decorated with words but they fail me. I can only express my deep felt emotions simply because of their intense complexity. It hurts knowing you're gone. When you were such a good natured person.

Goodbye Cindy Amadi. Please continue to plague the memories of those who loved you with your smile and infectious character ! That's how we wish to remember you.



Event

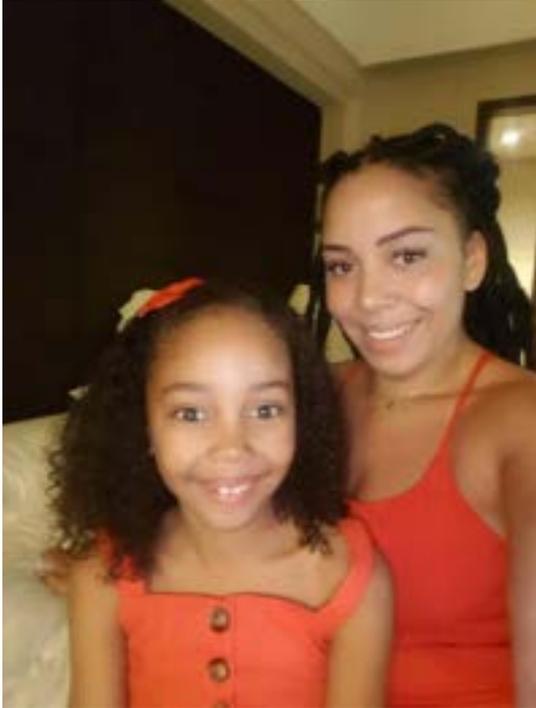
Happy birthday
Cali,

We have a teenager
I couldn't be more
proud of who you
are . Kind,
courageous, polite,
unapologetically
you, smart, loving
and emotionally
intelligent beyond
your years and a joy
to around

Happy 13th birthday
baby girl

Lots of Love From,
Mum





*Wishing our Beautiful
Great Niece Cali
A wonderful 13th
Birtbday*

*Lots of love from....
Auntie Dawn
Uncle Steve*



Event

Happy 1st
Birthday to you
our beautiful daughter,
Isabella Rose Badejoko.

We can believe our
baby girl is 1 already...
You are the most
precious gift of all.
Happy birthday to the
most wonderful
daughter, the sweetest
one year -old and the
most amazing daughter
in the World
With love from mummy
and daddy





Modou Adams jailed after trying to smuggle 2.9kg of cocaine out of Peru

Crime

By : Andrew Collins

Senior Writer

London, UK

A TikTok star who paraded his jet-setting lifestyle on social media has been jailed in Peru for almost seven years after being caught with nearly three kilograms of cocaine in his suitcase.

Modou Adams, 25, would post candid pictures on his Instagram called 'boywholives', showing his glamorous life as he spent time in Los Angeles, Athens and multiple trips to Peru, including a visit to Machu Pichu.

However, all is not what it seemed as Adams ostensibly high-flying model lifestyle disguised his sideline as a drugs mule and he will now be spending the remainder of his 20s and early 30s in a prison cell. According to a statement published by Peru's Supreme Court,



he has been sentenced to six years and eight months in prison for trying to smuggle 2.89 kilograms of cocaine to London. Adams, from London, was apprehended at Jorge Chávez international airport – Peru's main airport, around 11km outside capital city Lima – on September 30. The British citizen was intervened...when he was transporting toxic drugs in the structure of his suitcase bound for Paris



- France to be sent to the final destination of London - United Kingdom," said a statement issued by the Peruvian State.

"During the police intervention, the checked baggage of the suspect was opened, inside which clothing was found and a package was seen on the back of the suitcase into which a metal punch was inserted to extract the drugs."

Photos posted to Adams' Instagram account - where he has more than 11,000 followers - just four days prior to his arrest shows him visiting the Incan citadel of Machu Picchu in the Peruvian Andes.

At a court hearing, an interpreter helped Adams make sense of the proceedings.

He pleaded guilty to "illicit trafficking in toxic drugs, to the detriment of the Peruvian State, for having coordinated the shipment of 2.898 kilograms of cocaine hydrochloride destined for London", said the Peruvian State.

Judge Renee Quispe Silva sentenced Adams to six years and eight months in prison, and ordered him to pay 6,500 thousand soles (£1,368) as civil reparation. The court also ordered Adams to pay a fine of 1,281 soles (£271) to the Public Treasury.

Peru's Supreme Court shared a Photoshopped image on X, formerly Twitter, showing Adams behind bars.

'Men tell me they don't want to date me just because I'm black... it's embarrassing'

Religious & Skin Colour

By : Andrew Collins

Senior Writer

London, UK

Sitting across from a man at a singles event, Sienna Reid was mortified. As he sat down, the first words that came out of his mouth were 'I don't date black women.' Dating as a black muslim woman has always been hard for Sienna, but this latest setback made her feel particularly unwanted. The 33-year-old has been looking to find a partner to marry for seven years. After reverting back to Islam, Sienna has had to contend with a lack of representation and ignorance to her Caribbean roots.

"As a Jamaican person the question I would get is 'how are you Muslim?' Sienna said. "I was met with a lot of misunderstanding and stereotypes in the community."

From Jamaica, Sienna became a Muslim at the age of eight-years-old when her mother reverted to the religion. But her mother soon left the religion after finding 'a lack of diversity' in the community.

Growing up and living in Leeds, she found it hard to find representation within the community - with very few black Muslims around her.

Sienna finds herself in a unique position being black, Muslim and Caribbean. Back in 2018, a study by sociologist Val Bernard showed that 65% of black Caribbean women were single, 59% had never married and 59% of black Caribbean British families were headed by a single parent, often female.

In 2021, Muslim dating app, Muzmatch, surveyed over 400 of its users and found that 74% of its black members felt that race affected the matches they got. Fetishization, discrimination and colourism were the issues outlined, and some black users said they felt they were not represented in the online dating space.

"It's been difficult at the moment," said Sienna. She first started looking for a partner seven years ago when she finished studying Psychology at university. "I try to go to events but they were always based in Birmingham or London there weren't any organisations supporting reverts or black people. I feel misplaced at the events, even though I am surrounded by Muslims I don't feel included."

Sienna says it's been hard to connect with the kind of partner she is looking for - as many men don't seem interested.

"I've been to events that have been for white people who have reverted to Muslim and the black men were more open to looking for women in those areas. "I did go to one event that was a very very white revert Muslim event. There was a lot of black men



"I sat down with him and the first thing that came out of his mouth was 'I'm not looking for black women.'



"It was embarrassing for me," she said. Sienna isn't giving up on love though, she says she is still looking for the one and is using all the tools available to her through dating apps, events and forums

And there may be light at the end of the tunnel. Like Sienna, life coach Aziza White, struggled to date as a black Muslim woman following a divorce in 2017. However, she eventually found her partner on a dating app and says that to get to the point it took a lot of self improvement, communication and willingness to step outside your comfort zone.

"There's a lot of racism that's in the Muslim community, people kind of fluff over it but it's deep racism," she told the MEN. "But having said that there are some families in traditional Muslim culture, for lack of a better term, that are flexible and it's about finding them. I think that going on some of these apps when they're dominated by some cultures you're not seeing all that the Muslim community has to offer. "The person that I am now intending to marry is from a different culture and that is no issue, they're also a convert which is where some commonality comes from."

Entertainment

By : Bunmi Johnson

Bureau-Chief, New york

The award-winning rapper spoke to Gayle King on CBS Mornings about his oldest child Beyoncé and Jay-Z are one of the most famous couples in the world and have legions of adoring fans. However, when it comes to their home life, the A-listers are just like any other parents, according to their oldest daughter!



Blue Ivy 11, has had mixed feelings about whether she thinks her parents are cool, as Jay-Z revealed to Gayle King on CBS Mornings on Thursday.

The notoriously private rapper spoke to Gayle about his firstborn, having been asked whether or not she thought he was a cool dad.

"Blue, she's been fronting on me a little bit... but I catch her in the corner. You know now she asks me if I think this is cool, like my opinion on the sneakers she's wearing. She's come back. There was a time where she was like 'Dad!' I was like 'I'm cool! I don't know what you're saying.

"At your house, your parents are cool!" Jay-Z's incredibly rare interview has been aired in two parts. Blue may just be a preteen, but has already established her own fan base thanks to her own cool style and incredible dance moves, which she showcased time and time again during Beyoncé's recent Renaissance World Tour. At your house, your parents are cool!" Jay-Z's incredibly rare interview has been aired in two parts. Blue may just be a preteen, but has already established her own fan base thanks to her own cool style and incredible dance moves, which she showcased time and time again during Beyoncé's recent Renaissance World Tour.



This isn't the first time that Tina's given an insight into her close bond with her granddaughter – who she is incredibly proud of. The 69-year-old praised Blue while chatting to People back in July, where she also touched upon the fact that her young granddaughter was able to dance effortlessly on stage in heels.

"Well, this is a heels family. You're trained early to walk in heels," she told the outlet. "But yeah, she's having the time of her life, and I couldn't be more proud of her because she really worked hard."



She added: "She is 11 years old, and she had one week to prepare, and she's just getting better and better. So I'm the proud grandma, always." When asked whether her granddaughter's confidence had seen a boost since joining the tour, she joked: "Oh, to the sky, to the sky. Yes."

Doting mom Beyoncé is just as proud of her daughter too. She posted a touching tribute on Instagram dedicated to Blue following their first show together in the summer.

Taking to Instagram, the notoriously private Grammy-winning artist wrote: "My beautiful first born. I'm so proud and thankful to be your mama. You bring us so much joy, my sweet angel."

Matthew Perry, 'Friends' star, dead at 54

Tribute

By : Seyi Awoleye

Los Angeles,CA,USA

Matthew Perry, the beloved actor who starred as Chandler Bing on "Friends," has died. He was 54. There is currently no foul play suspected, according to a reliable source, however, the incident remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department Robbery-Homicide Division. Tributes are pouring in from around the world for the actor who died in his Los Angeles home on Saturday.



The American-Canadian star, best known for his portrayal of sarcastic joker Chandler Bing was found dead in his Los Angeles home on Saturday. He died in an apparent drowning in his hot tub. A 911 call captured a small portion of the police response.

Perry's family released a statement to People, saying: "Matthew brought so much joy to the world, both as an actor and a friend. You all meant so much to him and we appreciate the tremendous outpouring of love."

Friends co-stars Maggie Wheeler and Morgan Fairchild were among the many actors remembering Perry. Wheeler, who played Perry's on-off girlfriend Janice Hosenstein on the show, wrote on Instagram: "What a loss. The world will miss you, Matthew Perry."

Fairchild, who played Perry's on-screen mother Nora Bing, said on Twitter: "I'm heartbroken about the untimely death of my 'son', Matthew Perry." Selma Blair, Paget Brewster, Octavia Spencer and Yvette Nicole Brown also shared condolences. He shot to fame for his role on 1990s sitcom Friends, alongside Jennifer Aniston, Courteney Cox, Matt LeBlanc, Lisa Kudrow and David Schwimmer.

The hit show followed the close-knit group living in New York, with Perry playing Chandler Bing, who became known for his use of sarcastic one-liners.



The show ran for 10 seasons from 1994 to 2004, with a reunion special in 2021. Around a year ago, Perry embarked on a press tour for the release of his memoir Friends, Lovers, And The Big Terrible Thing: A Memoir. He spoke about his battle with addiction - including a near-death experience in 2019 after his colon burst as a result of opioid use.



"I know you're drinking," he remembered her telling him.

"We can smell it," she said in what Perry called a "kind of weird but loving way" - adding: "The plural 'we' hit me like a sledgehammer." The star, who appeared in 1999 drama *Cruel Intentions* and film *Legally Blonde*, wrote that she was "broken-hearted" and loved Perry "unconditionally".

Remembering Richard Roundtree: 1942-2023

Obituary

By : Seyi Awoleye

Los Angeles,CA,USA



We celebrate the life and career of screen icon Richard Roundtree, best known for his role as John Shaft in Shaft. Richard Roundtree, a trailblazing Black actor who played the private investigator John Shaft in the "Shaft" films of the 1970s and also took on dramatic roles dealing with race relations in America,

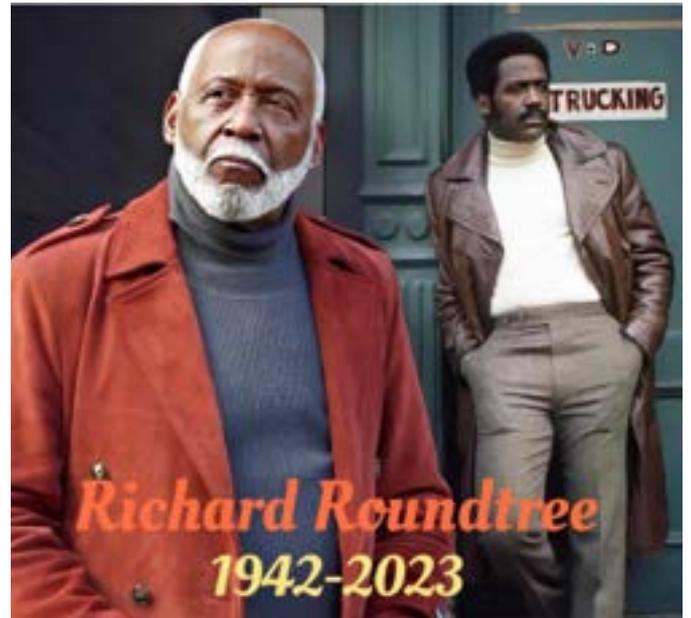
died aged 81, according to the Hollywood Reporter.

Roundtree died at his home in Los Angeles of pancreatic cancer, the Reporter said, citing his manager, Patrick McMinn.

"Richard's work and career served as a turning point for African American leading men in film.

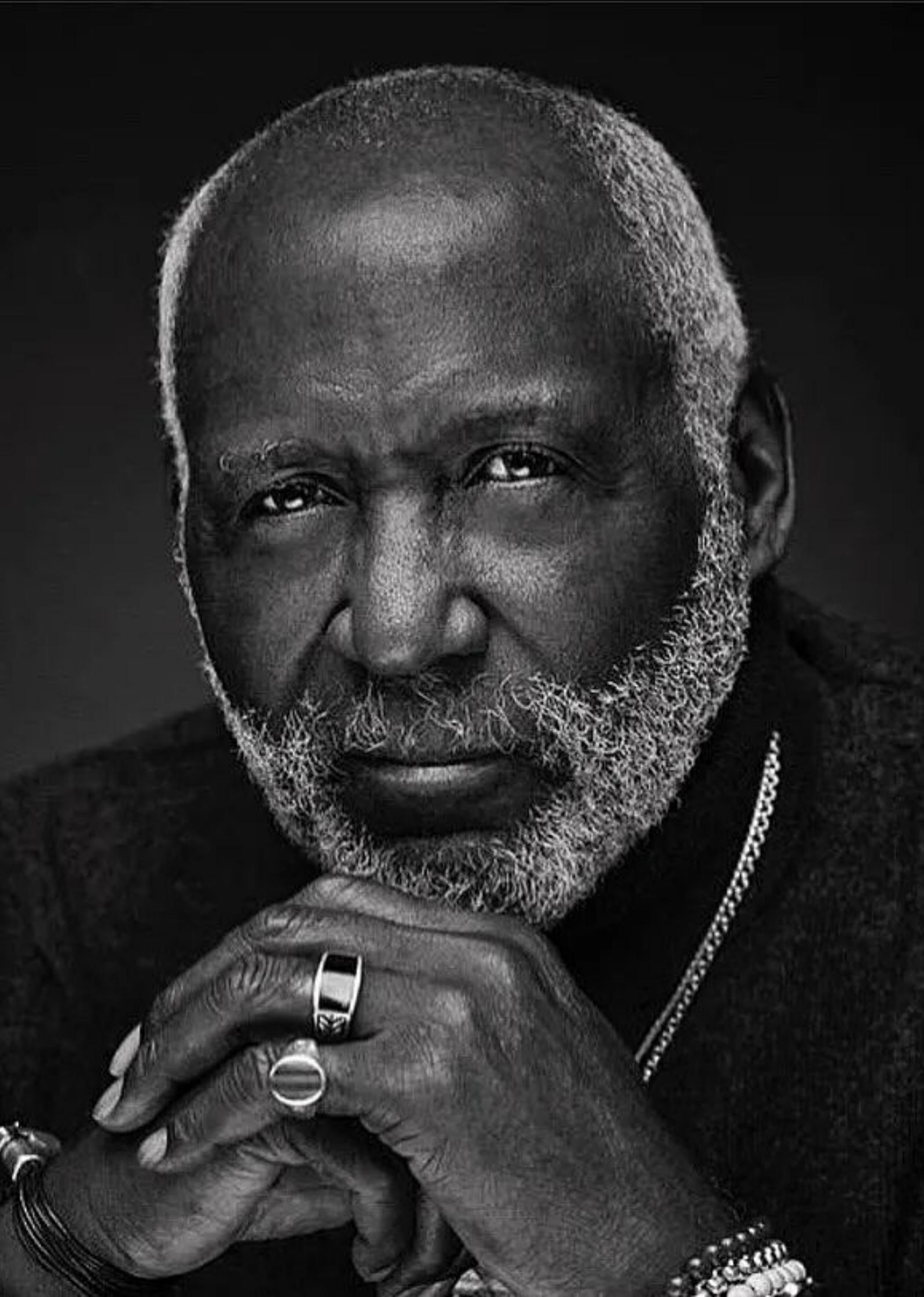
The impact he had on the industry cannot be overstated & quote; McMinn said in a statement, according to Variety, another show business trade publication. Roundtree shot to fame with the 1971 Blaxploitation movie "Shaft" about a private detective in the Harlem section of New York, and he reprised the role in a number of sequels and a short-lived network TV series.

Actor Richard Roundtree was born on July 9, 1942 in New Rochelle, New York to John and Kathryn Roundtree. Roundtree attended New Rochelle High School, where he played on the school's nationally ranked football team. In 1961, Roundtree earned an athletic scholarship to attend Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois, but he left school in 1963 to pursue a career as an actor and a model.



In 1963, Roundtree was hired by Eunice Johnson of Ebony magazine to model in the Ebony Fashion Fair. Roundtree went on to join the Negro Ensemble Company in 1967, where he played the role of boxing legend Jack Johnson in the company's production of The Great White Hope.





Event

Mimi Oyewo
Congratulations,
you make us so proud!
You did it! ...You're
destined for success.
.Enjoy your special
day because you've
earned it!..
Wishing you nothing
but the best as you
embark on this new
journey.

Lots of Love:
Dad, Mom, Zaina & Abu





Event

CONGRATULATIONS!!!
COYINDA FAGBENRO

May you celebrate graduation recalling fond memories from your past and dreaming exciting visions of your future. We can't wait to see what's next in your journey. Go into the world and do well, but more importantly, go into the world and do good. Take pride in how far you've come. This is only the beginning. You did it!. Caps off to you, graduate. Your future is beyond bright...After years of hard work and sacrifice, it's finally paid off. Warmest congratulations on your academic milestone! We are so proud of you! ...

We Love You...

Dad,Mom, Afolabi and Simi







FG Writes UK, Requests Diezani's Extradition over \$2.5bn Fraud

Politics



By : Gbenga Teejay Okunlola

London, UK



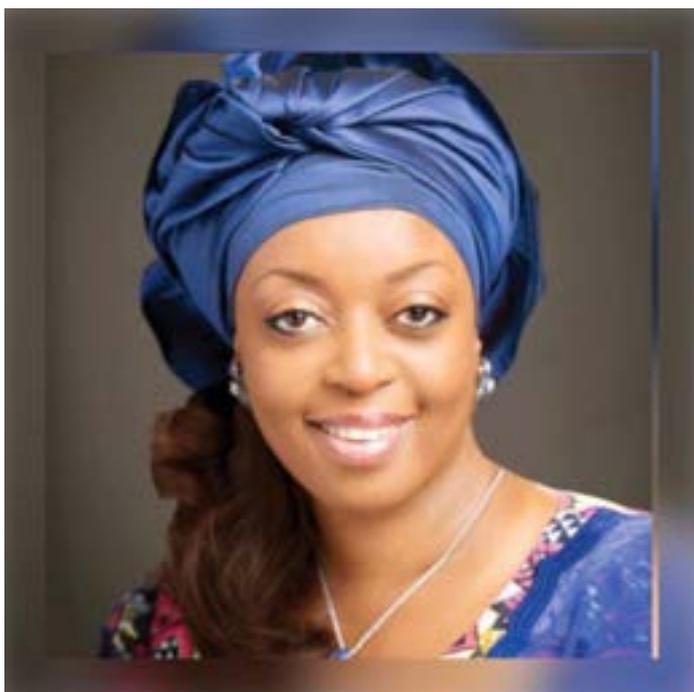
The Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Lateef Fagbemi, SAN, has submitted a warrant of arrest and request to the Crown Prosecution Services of the United Kingdom for the urgent extradition of a former Minister of Petroleum, Diezani Allison-Madueke.

The request was made on the orders of President Bola Tinubu following an official request by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) to the office of the AGF. A reliable source within the corridors of power revealed that the office of the AGF cited Section 2 (2) of Nigeria's Extradition Act,

CAP E25, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, and the London Scheme of Extradition within the Commonwealth otherwise known as "The Scheme," a multilateral treaty which governs extradition between the United Kingdom and Nigeria, in making the request. The commission also noted that the money laundering charges against Alison Madueke give it coverage jurisdictions in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and Nigeria.



Mrs Alison-Madueke is wanted in Nigeria to face 13 counts of money laundering involving jurisdictions in the UK, UAE, US and Nigeria. The EFCC alleges she stole \$2.5 billion while serving as Minister under former President Goodluck Jonathan's administration between 2010-2015. The former minister is currently on bail and facing trial in the UK over alleged bribery during her tenure as Minister. The UK's National Crime Agency has also been investigating her for allegedly receiving kickbacks for awarding lucrative oil and gas contracts.





Mrs Alison-Madueke

She also sued the EFCC and the Attorney-General's office over what she termed a false attempt to paint her as a "common criminal.

While the extradition process is typically lengthy and subject to approval by the recipient country, the Nigerian government hopes the UK will determine the request speedily and return Mrs Alison-Madueke to face charges in Nigeria. Earlier this year, the former minister challenged the forfeiture of her assets in Nigeria secured by the EFCC.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2023: WHEN IS IT CELEBRATED IN THE UK?

By : Linda R. Jones

Senior Writer

London, UK



Black History Month is an annual celebration that champions and commemorates the contribution of African and Caribbean communities to culture and society. It is marked in both the United States and the United Kingdom, though in different months.

Black History Month has been recognised in the USA for nearly 100 years, while in the UK, it has only been formally celebrated since the 1980s. Let's look more closely at how the event has developed and its significance.



Why is Black History Month in October in the UK and February in the US?

The precursor to Black History Month in the USA began in 1926. Historian Carter G Woodson conceived a week



dedicated to the teaching of black American history in public schools and widening understanding of the black experience.



He chose the second week in February as it coincided with the birthday of Abraham Lincoln and social reformer Frederick Douglass. Douglass' birthday on the 14th had been celebrated among black communities since the 19th century. In 1970, this week was expanded to a month of celebration and awareness..



Black History Month in the UK takes a lot of inspiration from the American movement, but there is a clear distinction as it focuses solely on the black British experience. It was first celebrated in the UK in October 1987, on the 150th anniversary of Caribbean emancipation. Ghanaian analyst and council employee Akyaaba Addai-Sebo was the event organiser and it quickly spread beyond London to the whole of the UK.

What is the theme for Black History Month 2023?

The theme for Black History Month 2023 is 'Saluting Our Sisters', which will highlight the achievements and contributions of black women throughout history. It will shine a light on the women who have courageously battled oppression and advocated for change but have regularly had their work ignored or forgotten.

By commemorating the trailblazing women from literature, music, fashion, sport, business, politics, academia, social and health care, and more, Black History Month will hope to inspire the next generation to pursue their dreams. There's also a focus on themes like resilience, determination, self-care, and well-being so women can help their communities and, most importantly, themselves. Why celebrate Black History Month?



Studies consistently show that black professionals are still experiencing racism in the workplace and are consistently held at a disadvantage in comparison to their peers. Black people also face assumptions about their abilities, skills, and character due to their race, and these are all inequalities no one should be happy to accept. UK Black History Month has evolved to be fully focused on black British history and leading figures from British history and society. People such as:

- Walter Tull, the first black officer to command white troops in the British Army and one of the first black English footballers
- Malorie Blackman, a bestselling and award-winning author, and the first black Children's Laureate
- Lewis Hamilton, one of the most successful and well-known Formula 1 competitors and the only black driver



- Diane Abbott, one of the first female black British MPs with over 30 years campaigning behind her

'I was given five days to leave the country': Student at centre of deportation campaign graduates from university

Education

By : Linda R. Jones

Senior Writer

London, UK



For Shepherd Machaya, just getting a place in "I don't want to lie to you, I started crying," says Machaya, originally from Zimbabwe, when he recalls the moment he secured a place to study at DCU. "And it was my birthday!" As an asylum seeker, he faced greater challenges than most.

which didn't make studying easy and he had limited access to laptops or transport. A far bigger obstacle lay ahead. "I was given five days to leave the country," recalls Shepherd of the day he received a deportation order from the Department of Justice. Not knowing what to do, he called DCU chaplain Philip McKinley for advice. "I said to Philip, look I have a problem here. I might not see you again." University staff and students quickly rowed in behind him, describing Shepherd as a "model citizen". DCU Students' Union, led by then president Vito Moloney, helped lead a "Save Our Shepherd" campaign, which included petitions and

protests outside the Department of Justice. The university also organised legal representation. Just before the deadline, his deportation was put on hold, which didn't make studying easy and he had limited access to laptops or transport. A far bigger obstacle lay ahead. "I was given five days to leave the country," recalls Shepherd of the day he received a deportation order from the Department of Justice. Not knowing what to do, he called DCU chaplain Philip McKinley for advice. "I said to Philip, look I have a problem here. I might not see you again." University staff and students quickly rowed in behind him, describing Shepherd as a "model citizen". DCU Students' Union, led by then president Vito Moloney, helped lead a "Save Our Shepherd" campaign, which included petitions and protests outside the Department of Justice.

The university also organised legal representation. Just before the deadline, his deportation was put on hold. "It's something that I will never forget," says Shepherd.

That was in 2018, but it wasn't until 2021 that he received confirmation of his "permission to remain" in Ireland. He graduated from DCU this week, achieving a 2/1 honours degree in management of information technology/information systems.

"I told myself, I'm not going to give up," he says. Now living in Dublin, he says the degree has given him opportunities to work in the IT field with companies such as Cobalt, and he has ambitions to gain new professional experience in areas like cybersecurity. For Shepherd, it's the friendships and connections forged during his college experience that stand out.

“This university took me in its arms like a mother takes care of a child,” he says. “They took me and they said, we are family.”

Machaya obtained a place at DCU under its “university of sanctuary” programme, an initiative which focuses on enabling access to higher education through scholarships and supports such as stipends and laptops. DCU, which was the first Irish university to receive this designation in December 2016, has since been joined by seven other universities across the State which offer similar supports. Olufunke Ollarinoye is another university of sanctuary student who graduated this week, also with a degree in management of information technology / information systems. She said her college experience was the key to escaping “a very dark place” following the death of her daughter.

Temitope was just six years old when she died in Temple Street Children’s Hospital following a four-year illness. Olufunke and her family, originally from Nigeria, were living in the Baleskin Reception Centre in Finglas at the time.

During the years of her daughter’s illness, much of Olufunke’s time was dedicated to being at her daughter’s bedside in the hospital.

“That was the life I knew,” she says.

Olufunke says she didn’t realise quite how serious her daughter’s condition was until very near the end. “It just happened so fast, and she just died suddenly.”

In the years that followed, Olufunke says it was hard to cope with the grief. At one stage, a counsellor suggested taking on a new challenge to help to fill the void. It was some time later when she learned about the university of sanctuary scholarships.

She jumped at the chance. "I was like, okay, this is it!" She learning coding and says her background in accountancy and her maths skills gave her an edge. While completing the programme part-time, Olufunke secured a job with Irish Life. The role is in the financial sector rather than IT, but she says her degree gave her transferable skills which are helping her to advance.

"I've been doing my professional [accountancy] exams and I've just been passing all of them because I'm using the skills that I learned in DCU. I'm transferring them back to my professional exams, and I've been scoring good grades," she says. After she began studying for her degree, Olufunke was granted residency status and moved out of the direct provision system.

She volunteers as a youth and charity officer at the Prince of Peace Charity. It involves visits to residents in the Mosney Direct Provision Centre where she promotes the scholarship programme to the residents. "DCU helped me put my life in a different perspective," she says.

King Charles Kenya trip: Mau Mau uprising hangs over visit

Royal visit to Kenya

By : Clara Mpheza Manda

Senior Writer

Harare, Zimbabwe



- King Charles and President Ruto sit together on the dais during the welcome

The King and Queen were officially welcomed to Kenya with a display of military pomp and pageantry as their state visit began. Charles and Camilla were warmly greeted by Kenya's

President William Ruto and his wife First Lady Rachel Ruto at the State House in Nairobi during the first full day of their tour. Before the formalities began the foursome posed



- King Charles walks past the Guard of Honour.

Charles inspected the troops, walking past the soldiers in their red tunics and peaked caps. The King and Queen were invited by President Ruto for a five-day state visit, their first to a Commonwealth country,

for a picture for the waiting press with the president's official residence as a backdrop. The King later joined President Ruto on a dais, as a nearby Guard of Honour, formed in two rows, gave a royal salute and the Kenya Defence Force band played the UK and Kenyan national anthems followed by a 21-gun salute.



- Queen Camilla signs a guest book as Kenya's First Lady looks on

that will strengthen the UK's relationship with Kenya through the "soft diplomacy" of the British royal family. Kenya is celebrating the 60th anniversary of its independence from Britain and Charles later held a bilateral meeting with the Kenyan statesman while Camilla had separate talks



- Some Kenyans have taken part in protests ahead of King Charles' visit



- Thousands of people are thought to have died in the Mau Mau uprising

- Agnes Muthoni lost her husband Elijah two year ...against the British Empire in the 1950s

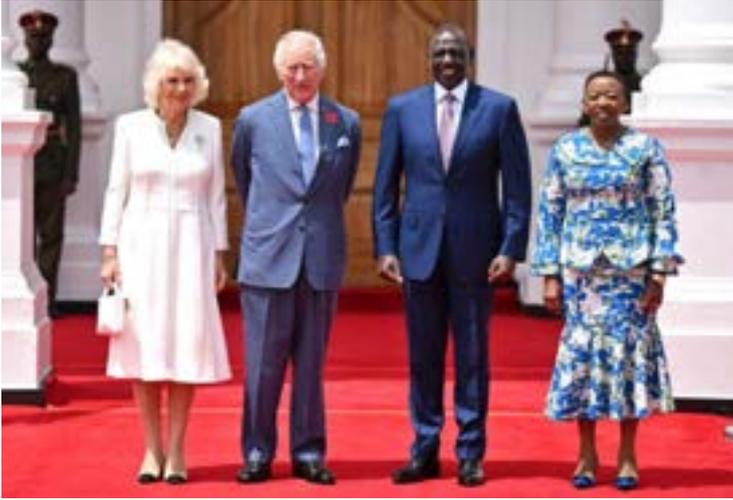
with Mrs Ruto. King Charles said on Tuesday he felt the "greatest sorrow and deepest regret" for atrocities suffered by Kenyans during their struggle for independence from British colonial rule. But in a speech at the start of a five-day state visit to Kenya, he stopped short of making a full apology called for by survivors of that period and local rights groups who are pressing for reparations from the British government. "The wrongdoings of the past are a cause of the greatest sorrow and the deepest regret," Charles said during a state banquet.

"There were abhorrent and unjustifiable acts of violence committed against Kenyans as they waged...



- King Charles walks past the the Guard of Honour.

a painful struggle for independence and sovereignty – and for that, there can be no excuse." More than 10,000 people were killed and others tortured during the brutal suppression of the Mau Mau uprising in the 1950s, one of the British Empire's bloodiest insurgencies."



- King Charles and Queen Camilla

President William Ruto praised Charles for his courage and readiness "to shed light on uncomfortable truths that reside in the darker regions of our shared experience"

- Charles and Camilla were greeted by Kenya's President William Ruto, and First Lady, Rachel Ruto

In 2013 the UK expressed regret and paid out £20m (\$24m) to more than 5,000 people - but some feel that did not go far enough. The resistance group remained outlawed. It was designated a terrorist organisation by the colonial government and subsequent administrations in independent Kenya did not overturn the ban. "Three Mau Mau members could not meet; it was an offence. It was only in 2003 that the law was changed, and members of the Mau Mau were finally recognised as freedom fighters.

Event

Funke
A very happy, sassy,
classy birthday Sis!

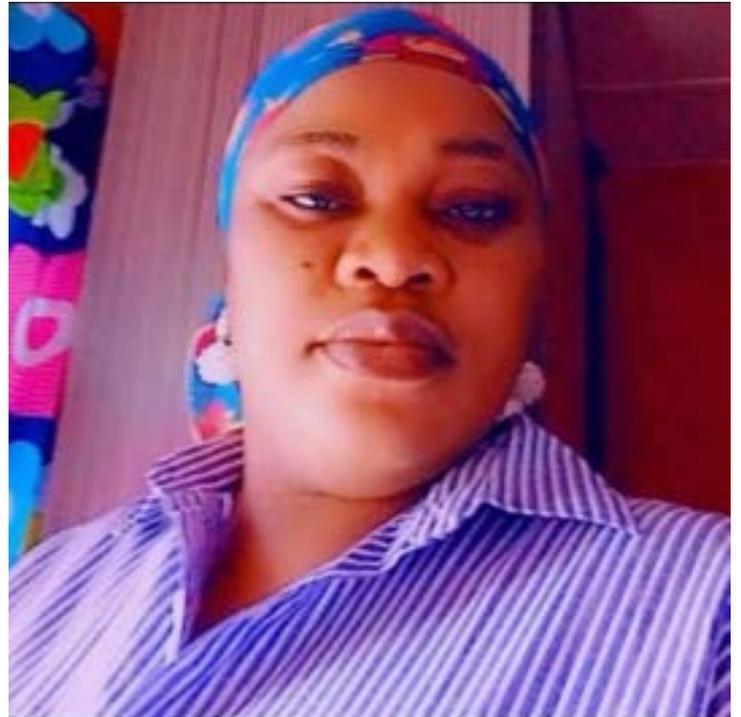
Happiest of birthdays
to the girl who made
our childhood fun and
memorable.

Beyond proud that
you're my sister. You
make life sweeter.
Happy birthday to the
most wonderful sister
in the world!

Love You Loads

Lots of Love From:
Gbenga Teejay
OKUNLOLA

Publisher/Editor-In-Chief
A-CHOICE Magazine



Are women in Nigeria safe?

Crime



By : Joy Gofwen

Lagos Bureau Chief

Women have continued to become endangered species in Nigeria when it comes to romantic relationships. Several women and girls have been killed by their male lovers for ritual purposes and other form of violence.

Interestingly, these victims are blamed or accused of chasing after the perpetrators for wealth and fame among other accusations.

Recently, Okoligwe Damian, a 400-level student of Petrochemical Engineering at the University of Port Harcourt was arrested for allegedly killing his girlfriend, Justina Nkang. The 20-year-old victim was also a 300-level student of Biochemistry in the same university.



According to some reports available online, the state Commissioner of Police, Nwonyi Emeka, said an unidentified neighbour called the attention of the police when he observed a foul smell coming from Damian's apartment and upon arrival, the door was forced opened and the dismembered body of the victim was found in a bag. Other reports said Damian was intercepted by vigilante group in his area, along NTA Road,



Ozuoba while he was trying to dispose off of her remains in a refuse dump. Some men have come to publicly express their satisfaction over the act Damian had committed. No one, for whatever reason deserves to be gruesomely murdered by anyone, not even someone who claims love and protect her. These kind of men or anyone who share same believe with Damian does not deserve to live among humans. How do we leave people with comments like this live among us?

Kosi Ugo wrote on his Facebook page that: "Every time a girl is killed by her yahoo boyfriend and it makes round on social media, there's this unexplainable joy I feel in my heart that money cannot buy." "I always feel like looking for the boy to shake his hand and thank him for a job well done."

One Chukwudum Ejimkonye wrote that, "This is just the beginning of what you women are seeing, make una face reality and stop following men and female friends you don't know their source of wealth. I don't feel pity for her because na her gold digger life put her for this mess wey kpai her. Women make una get small work una dey do even if na 1k una dey get everyday it's good, save 1k in a year and find something doing." How are we living with people with such mindsets in the society allowing them walk freely?

It is interesting how so much is talked about the woman/girl involved who is also a victim and nothing is said about the man who is the perpetrator.

More concerted efforts by government and all related agencies must be put in place to protect women and girls from becoming victims. The judiciary must be seen and heard actively. No one must sit on the fence to bring justice to these victims and protect young girls from harm.

Capital punishment should be given to perpetrators like Damian with a blink of an eye to serve as deterrent to those who would want to tow that path in the future.

May the soul of Justina and many women and girls reported and unreported rest in peace.

Francis Ngannou on meeting Cristiano Ronaldo

Sport

"I hope you will believe it, because this is true (laughs). I was at the Four Seasons Hotel Riyadh, where Cristiano was living at the time. At first, I met his friend, Ricky, he was saying Ronaldo was a big fan of me.

I was thinking, I hope this guy is not messing with me and it was true. Then we went upstairs to see Cristiano. I was quite surprised, I said 'This is Cristiano, right?'

Ronaldo was a very wonderful person, as if I had known him for a while even though it was the first time I had ever met him.

We started talking, he started telling me things about myself, about watching my fights at 4am.



He knew me pretty well, I was surprised. We talked for some time, I couldn't believe it."

Remembrance

6 years have passed since you moved to a better place, Mum. You were a very wise person and taught us a great lesson of life. Our hearts are filled with love whenever we think of you. Mum, our daily prayer is to see you again someday. You were the best friend we've ever had. It's hard to believe that it has been 6 years since you passed away. We still miss you like it was yesterday, but we cherish every wonderful memory that we created together. We will always love and miss you. Until we meet again.

Love xxx

Your children,
grandchildren and great-
grandchildren



Entertainment

I didn't have it easy growing up. My dad abandoned my family when I was age 11, leaving my mum to raise 4 kids on her own in Brooklyn, New York. Mama held it down as a clerk at an investment firm. Sometimes, she'd take up part-time job as a security guard just to provide for us. "Once I became successful as a rapper & entrepreneur, I retired my mama. At some point mama got bored not working. In 2003, she became the president of my foundation, the Shawn Carter Foundation." - Jay Z speaks on his mum's sacrifice for the family.

A-CHOICES



Davido Recounts How His Father Used His Power to Cancel All His Shows

Entertainment

By : Awoleye-Beckley

Abeokuta,Nigeria



Nigerian artiste David Adeleke, popularly known as Davido, has opened up on why his father, Adedeji Adeleke, used his influence to cancel many of his shows at the start of his music career.

The Afrobeats star

disclosed how his billionaire father used his position of authority to punish him for breaking a mutually agreed upon agreement. The musician revealed in an interview with American singer,

Kelly Clarkson that his father had wished for him to graduate before going into music."He was adamant about me finishing school. One, because I didn't make it. Two, because you know what I'm saying? He didn't mind me doing music, but he was bent on me, you know, finishing school. "He owns a University, So you can imagine, and my mom was a college professor. I think they were also scared because whatever you want your kids to do, you want them to succeed. In our business, it's not that easy to be successful."So you know, we made a deal where I go to school for two weeks out of the month, and the other two weeks, I can be in the studio and do what I want. "It got to a point where I was distracting the class when my music got bigger. After a while, I got to do part-time class-type stuff. I was getting too big, and he got mad.

"I'm talking about he sees a billboard of me doing a show; the show gets canceled before I get there. He has that type of power.

"So it got to a point where everyone was scared to book me. But eventually, I did finish school and now he is my biggest fan."

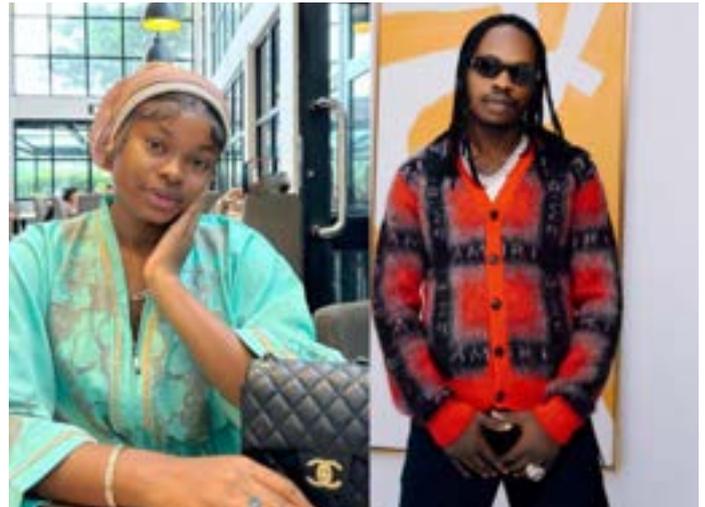
Detaining Naira Marley Without Evidence, A Violation Of His Rights — Shubomi, Singer's Sister.

Entertainment

By : Awoleye-Beckley

Abeokuta, Nigeria

Shubomi, the sister to the embattled singer Azeez Fashola, known as Naira Marley, has cried out over what she says violates her brother's human rights. Earlier, a Magistrate Court remanded Naira Marley and associate Sam Larry in police custody pending the completion of the investigation into the circumstances surrounding Mohbad's death. Netizens have continued to seek justice for MohBad's death, promising that the injustice he allegedly suffered in Naira Matrley's hands will not be overlooked. Lamenting the situation in an Instagram post on Saturday, Shubomi stated that there is no evidence proving her brother's



involvement in Mohbad's death and his continuous detention is mainly to appease the public. Shubomi added that detaining her brother this long without evidence violates his human rights. She wrote, "Keeping someone who willingly traveled back to help in detention for nearly 30 days, with no charge, no evidence, no sufficient witness is a violation of his human rights."

Keeping him in custody to appease social media and the internet mob is crazy."If you have evidence against him for anything he's been accused of, charge him! But if you don't release him. It shouldn't take this long for the investigation to be done.

"We all want the truth! We all want justice. What is the delay? We've already lost one person, trying to lynch another is not going to bring about justice."



By : Joy Gofwen

Lagos Bureau Chief

Dr Femi Olaleye, founder of Optimal Cancer Care Foundation in Lagos, was sentenced on October 24 to life imprisonment for sexual abuse of his wife's niece.

The judge, Rahman Oshodi of the Ikeja Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence in Lagos, found the doctor guilty of the two count charge against him.

Olaleye was arraigned on a two-count charge of defilement and sexual assault by penetration of his wife's niece, offences which he was alleged to have committed between March 2020 and November 2021 and was arraigned on November 30, 2022 where



he pleaded not guilty to the offences. The judge ruled that the prosecution team was able to prove beyond reasonable doubt counts one and two filed against the defendant. Delivering his judgement the judge said: "The sexual abuse came with a threat. The defendant had groomed the prosecutory (referring to the survivor) with pornography.

The prosecutory did not consent and did not willingly suck his penis," the judge said. "I'm satisfied with prosecutory's evidence that the defendant had sex with her and inserted his penis in her mouth and ejaculated." "I believe the prosecutory that he forced her to suck his penis. I believe that the first time he had sex with her, blood gushed out of her vagina. Her evidence greatly implicates the defendant," he added. The defendant had earlier told the court that his wife was motivated to accuse him for financial gains and other properties they had owned together along with custody of their two children. The judge however ruled that: "The defendant said his wife was motivated by financial gains, including taking the family home in Maryland, Lagos, Mercedes Benz, money in their joint account and custody of their two children.



"Let me immediately say that these issues will not deflate the evidence of the prosecution on the issues before the court. The issue is this – did the defendant have sexual intercourse with the prosecutory and force her to suck his penis? The answer is yes." The judge ruled that the prosecutor had established that the survivor was a child (16 years as at year of abuse) by the 2015 Child Rights Law of Lagos State. "I, therefore, feel satisfied that the prosecutor has

established that (a) the prosecutory was a child by section 261 of the Child Rights Law of Lagos state 2015, the defendant had sexual intercourse with her by putting his penis in her vagina, the defendant also forced his penis into her mouth and ejaculated," the judge ruled."Femi Olaleye, I have convicted you of defilement and sexual assault by penetration. This charge has a mandatory sentence of life imprisonment. Accordingly, I sentenced you to life imprisonment on count one and two. On each count, the sentencing will run concurrently," he ruled. The judge further directed that the defendant's name be added to the sexual offenders register of Lagos State.

Background Story

In 2022, Dr Femi Olaleye, a medical practitioner and founder of Optimal Cancer Care Foundation was accused of sexual abuse and defilement of a minor who was his wife's niece for about one-year-nine-months.

His wife, Aderemi Olaleye, who reported the case to the police and was also a witness against the defendant told the court last year that her husband had allegedly introduced her niece to pornographic content and oral sex.

The child informed me that her aunt's husband asked her about her virginity. "And he told the child that virginity is no longer in vogue and that as a medical doctor, he usually covers up for girls who have lost their virginity or gotten pregnant," Ajayi-Kayode told the court. The prosecution presented seven witnesses. But one was "withdrawn." The witnesses were, Aderemi, the defendant's wife, the survivor, (identity undisclosed); a child forensic specialist; Bisi Ajayi-Kayode, a police inspector, Esther Igbineweka; a medical examiner, Akinbunmi Oyebimpe and Abe Leonard; a police officer.

Tinubu and the Supreme court

Meanwhile, it is no longer news that the supreme court of Nigeria had upheld the victory of Bola Ahmed Tinubu as the President of Nigeria in the February 2023 elections.



Upholding the judgement of the Presidential Election Petition Tribunal PEPT, the apex court ruled that the appeal lacked merit and therefore was dismissed.

“There is no merit in this appeal, and it is hereby dismissed,” said presiding judge, John Okoro.

The two major opposition parties had filed an appeal on the grounds of fraud, certificate forgery which is a crime under law and electoral law breaches after the PEPT affirmed the results announced by INEC. Having battled the originality of the certificate from The Chicago State University submitted to the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) by Tinubu in a US court, the apex court said it could not accept new evidence in the appeal. With number of evidences against President Tinubu ranging from being indicted for drug trafficking while living in Chicago and US government statements confirm that Tinubu forfeited \$460,000 in 1993 over links to a drug trafficking syndicate, but he was not convicted.



To certificate forgery, conflicting identity, inconsistency in his credentials and several breach in the electoral law yet, the seven-member Judges at the apex court found non convincing enough.

Do we still have hope in the judicial system of the country? Justice is marred by so-called technicalities to please a group of people while the masses look hopelessly. Is justice for all or just for some?

Fury survives knockdown in controversial points win over Ngannou

Sport

By : Linda R. Jones

Senior Writer

London, UK



Tyson Fury was forced to get up off the canvas as he claimed an incredibly controversial split decision victory over former UFC champion Francis Ngannou in Saudi Arabia.

Ngannou, making his professional boxing debut,

took Fury the distance and put his opponent on the canvas in round three after connecting with a left hook. Fury, the WBC heavyweight champion of the world, was able to recover but ended the fight with a cut forehead, as well as a small mark underneath his left eye. But while one judge scored it 95-94 in favour of the boxing novice Ngannou, two gave it to Fury at 96-93 and 95-94, preserving his undefeated record.

"That definitely wasn't in the script," Fury said immediately afterwards. "Francis is a hell of a fighter, strong, a big puncher and a lot better boxer than we all thought he would ever be." Fury's victory means he will next face the WBA, IBF and WBO champion Oleksandr Usyk,

with both men attempting to become the first heavyweight since Lennox Lewis to hold the undisputed championship. And what did Francis Ngannou say after his impressive performance? "My training camp was only three and a half months and I came into this with an injury," he said.

"But I don't want to give excuses. I will look at what I can do next to improve my game to come back even better." "I'm getting ready to come here and take over."

"That definitely wasn't in the script," Fury said afterwards. "He's a hell of a fighter and a hell of a lot better boxer than we thought he would be. He's an awkward man and a good puncher and I respect him a lot.

"He was very awkward, he wasn't coming forward and was waiting for me to throw. He's given me one of my toughest fights of the last ten years."

When asked about the knockdown he replies: "I was caught behind the head for the knockdown. I got back up and got back to my boxing.

"I don't know how close it was. I got the win and that's what it is."

There has — somewhat predictably — been a very mixed reaction to Tyson Fury's split decision victory. A lot of current and former professional boxers have argued Fury edged it. But just about every MMA fighter and analyst has said Francis Ngannou was robbed.



The British former IBO super-middleweight world champion Chris Eubank Jr. is one of those to have broken ranks. He scored the fight in Ngannou's favour. "Watching from ringside I thought Ngannou won the fight. It was close but he was the aggressor, landed heavier shots & scored a knockdown," he wrote on Twitter.

"Fury deserved to lose after having so much trouble against a man who has never boxed before... too much time filming Netflix specials not enough time in the gym I'm guessing. Unlucky Francis."

Tyson Fury told Sky Sports earlier this week that he intended to fight Oleksandr Usyk on December 23. But, after his controversial split decision victory over Francis Ngannou, Fury's promoter, Frank Warren, appeared to backtrack on that plan.

"I don't think the date will be announced yet," he said. "The fight is done. Tyson has a cut there.



There's no point setting a date yet. Everybody wants this fight and it will break all box office records."Ngannou: 'I'm not making excuses, I can do better'

I'm honestly full of admiration for Francis Ngannou for his post-match interview. I think he knew that, in all reality, his only realistic way of winning this fight was to knock Tyson Fury out, and to completely remove the possibility of the judges awarding the result to his rival."I might have come up short today, I might be wounded but I can bite, I'm just a fighter and I'm ready to fight any time soon," he said.

“We can run it back soon and I'm sure I can do better. This was my first boxing match, I'm not making excuses but I can come back even stronger.” I think there's about as much chance of Fury giving Ngannou a rematch as there is of me becoming the heavyweight champion of the world. But I admire his outlook.

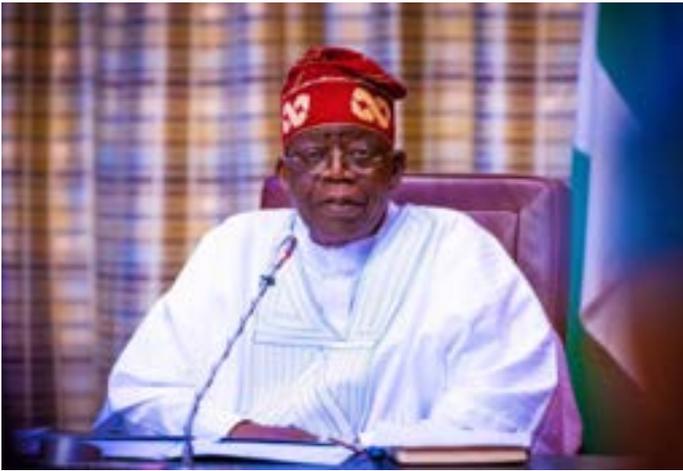
President Tinubu Bans His Son, Seyi, Other Unauthorized Persons From Attending FEC Meetings

Politics

By : Okunlola Kayode F.

Senior Writer

Lagos, Nigeria



"Last week I noticed the undue access of people sneaking in and out of this council, including... I saw the photograph of my son, Seyi, sitting behind... That is not acceptable," President Tinubu said.

President Bola Ahmed Tinubu has banned his son, Seyi and other unauthorized persons from attending the Federal Executive Council FEC meeting in the council chambers.

Tinubu's public rebuking of his son, for attending the Federal Execution Council (FEC) meeting, has been generating reactions on social media and further put the president's family under scrutiny. Mr Tinubu had on Monday, during the weekly FEC meeting, complained about how those not permitted to enter the council chamber were allowed in, including his 37-year-old son. "Last week, I noticed the undue access of people sneaking in and out of this council, including... I saw the photograph of my son, Seyi, sitting behind... That is not acceptable," Mr Tinubu said. He further named those permitted to have access to the chamber,

including Hadiza Usman, special adviser on policy coordination; Bayo Onanuga, special adviser on information and strategy; Hakeem Muri-Okunola, principal private secretary and Damilotun Aderemi, private secretary.

FEC meeting

FEC is the cabinet of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and is part of the executive branch of the country's government. Section 144 (5) of the Constitution recognises the "executive council of the Federation" (the Federal Executive Council) as the "body of Ministers of the Government of the Federation, howsoever called, established by the President and charged with such responsibilities for the functions of government as the President.



The weekly meeting of the council is presided over by the president and attended by the vice president who is the deputy chairman, secretary to the government of the federation, head of service of the federation, ministers and some top aides of the president. The meetings are now held on Mondays as against Wednesdays it was held during the previous administrations.

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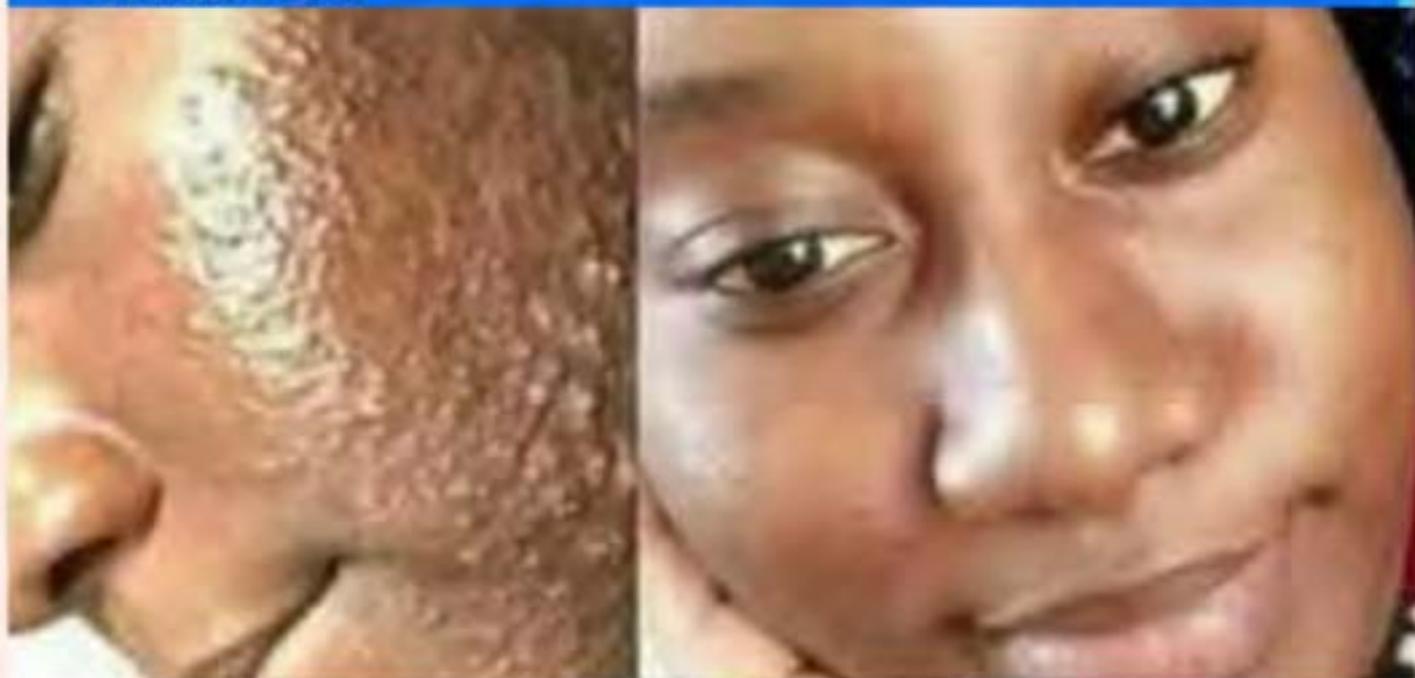
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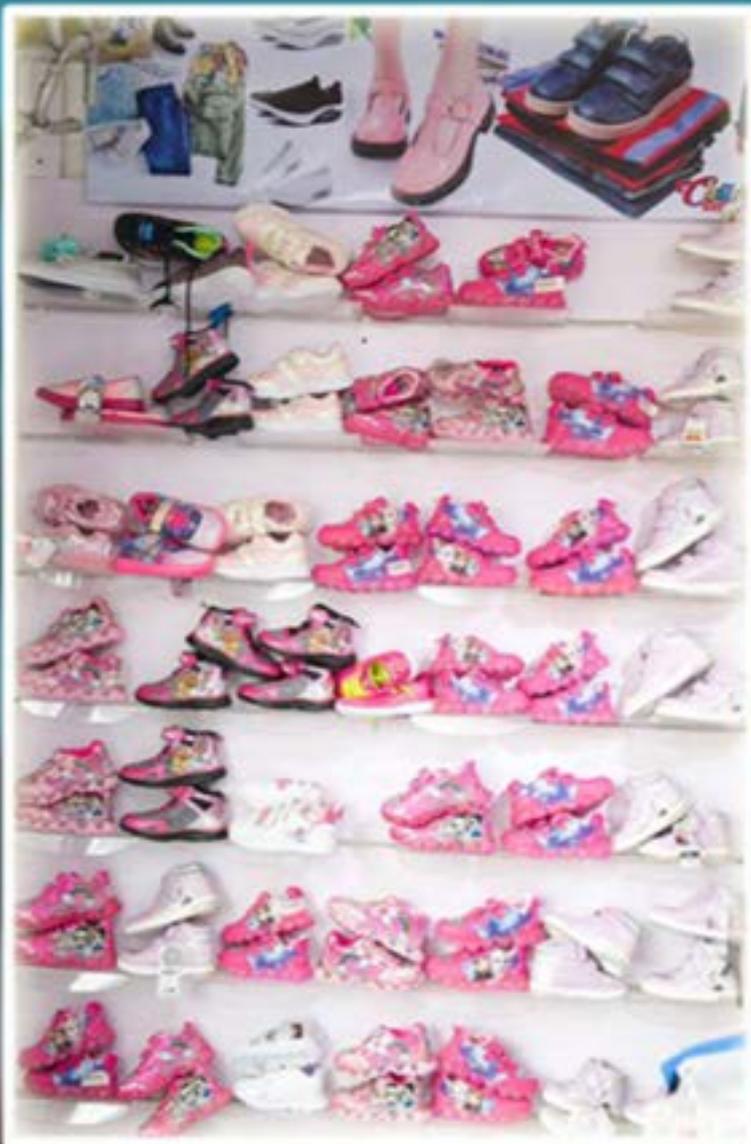
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